

this end, Governor Ridge and Deputy Prime Minister Manley will work with our key agencies and departments to ensure that they have in place efficient and effective mechanisms for consulting with the private sector. This will be part of an ongoing process of formally involving private sector leaders in our border work.

More work remains, and the United States and Canada reaffirm our commitment to fully realize the smart border vision. Some of the smart border action items will take sustained cooperation, effort and investment. We have directed Governor Ridge and Deputy Prime Minister Manley to continue overseeing implementation of the Smart Border Action Plan, and provide us periodic progress reports. In addition, we have asked that they identify and initiate work in other areas where close cooperation serves our mutual interests, such as biosecurity and science and technology research and development.

Our relationship has never been stronger. We are neighbors who share a common border, but more importantly we are neighbors bound together by common values: freedom, democracy, the rule of law, the inherent dignity and rights of every human being.

We are also neighbors who share a common mission: to protect the security and enhance the prosperity of our citizens. Working together, we will fulfill this mission.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of Portugal

September 10, 2002

President Bush. It's my honor to welcome Prime Minister Barroso of Portugal to the Oval Office. He's one of the bright young leaders on the international stage. And it's a conversation I've been looking forward to having with Jose.

He comes at a very interesting time. It's a time where the world is discussing the present and the future. Today—tomorrow we'll be reliving a horrible reminder of what is possible in the 21st century; that is, no country is immune from attack.

We will discuss today our mutual desire to fight terror. And I appreciate the Government of Portugal for its strong support in the war against terror. We will also discuss future threats that we face, all of us face, the dire possibilities that outlaw regimes will develop weapons of mass destruction and use them with terrorist organizations or use them on their own against countries which love freedom, countries such as Portugal.

We will discuss our relationship in NATO, and of course, we've got a very important conference coming in NATO about the expansion. I look forward to hearing the Prime Minister's views on that important issue.

So you're here at a perfect time—

Prime Minister Durao Barroso. Thank you.

President Bush. —to discuss important issues. I value his judgment. I look forward to his advice.

Mr. Prime Minister, if you'd like to say a few things.

Prime Minister Durao Barroso. Okay, thank you very much. Let me first of all thank very much Mr. Bush, President Bush, for receiving me here today. I think it is very important the United States of America and President Bush listens to the opinion of close allies, and Portugal is a very close ally of the United States.

I think that it was Winston Churchill that said once that: "The problem with allies is that sometimes they have opinions." [Laughter] And I come here to listen to President Bush, but also—

President Bush. I'm going to listen. [Laughter]

Prime Minister Durao Barroso. —to give you my opinion, very frankly, the opinion of a friend, the opinion of a close ally of the United States, a country that shares the same basic values.

And I think at this very moment, where there are some global threats that have to have a global answer, we should act globally. And that's one of the messages I will convey to President Bush, a personality I admire very much for everything he represents, for the free world, the way he has led this global coalition against terrorism.

And I'm very proud to be today here with you, to convey to you the deep respect of

the Portuguese people—indeed, I would say, of Europe—in all our common endeavors against global terrorism.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:57 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Remarks at the Embassy of Afghanistan and an Exchange With Reporters

September 10, 2002

The President. Thank you all very much. Thank you for coming. I just—please, be seated. I had the opportunity of meeting with distinguished members of the Arab American and Muslim American communities, and I want to thank you all so very much for coming to share with me your thoughts.

Like all Americans, they're proud of our country; they're proud of our military; they're proud of our allies for working together to free Afghanistan. They will never forget the joy of the Afghan people who were liberated. They appreciate the fact that we work in concert to destroy terrorist training camps in Afghanistan so that those terrorists might not hurt others. They wanted to come with me to show their solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and to show that America has a vibrant and important and dynamic Muslim faith tradition.

I appreciate so very much Ziad, the president of the American Arab Anti-Defamation League for being here.

Mr. Ambassador, thank you and your sweet wife for having us here. The Ambassador has a fabulous story. He's an American citizen, renounced his citizenship in order to become the Ambassador of Afghanistan, to serve this Nation. I appreciate that, appreciate your leadership.

I want to thank Andrew Natsios, who is with us today, who is doing a fine job of helping people in need around the world. I want to thank—where's Zal? There he is. Zal, thanks for coming. Zal Khalilzad is a member of the National Security Council and very much involved with our efforts to help Afghanistan.

It's important for our fellow Americans to understand that Americans of Muslim faith share the same grief that we all share from what happened to our country, that they're just as proud of America as I am proud of America, that they love our country as much as I love our country.

They share my profound belief that no American should be judged by appearance, by ethnic background, or by religious faith. I believe that strongly, and so do they.

Bigotry is not a part of our soul. It's not going to be a part of our future. Sure, there may be some, but that's not the American way, and we must reject bigotry of all kinds in this great land. In order for us to reject the evil done to America on September the 11th, we must reject bigotry in all its forms.

George Washington says, "America gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance." And that is true today. We treasure our friendship with Muslims and Arabs around the world. One year ago, the people of Afghanistan lived under oppression. Their country was a haven for terror. Today, they're an emergency democracy—an emerging democracy and building a better future. And we are proud to continue to stand by them and to stand with them.

Americans are helping the people of Afghanistan in their time of hardship and need, and we will continue to do so. The United States has committed more than \$700 million in aid to Afghanistan for food and seeds and roads and bridges, water and sanitation systems. I was most proud of the fact that American children from all walks of life contributed to the America's Fund for Afghan Children. It was such a strong statement, of children uniting to help people in need.

All Americans must recognize that the face of terror is not the true faith—face of Islam. Islam is a faith that brings comfort to a billion people around the world. It's a faith that has made brothers and sisters of every race. It's a faith based upon love, not hate.

As we mourn tomorrow, we must remember that our enemy is a radical network of terrorists, not a religion; that governments which support them are our enemies, not faithful Muslims who love their families, who